

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY
Intelligence Information Cable

ROUTINE

IN 04183

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050630Z

CITE

DIST 5 JULY 1967

COUNTRY NORTH VIETNAM

EO 12958 3.4(b)(1)>25Yrs
(C)

DOI 18-29 MAY 1967

SUBJ OBSERVATIONS IN HANOI IN LATE MAY 1967

ACQ

SOURCE

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1. (SUMMARY: IN LATE MAY 1967 TANKS WERE USED IN ANTI-AIRCRAFT ARTILLERY POSITIONS IN THE HANOI AREA. PETROLEUM CANS WERE SEEN FREQUENTLY IN THE FREIGHT TRAINS. ALTHOUGH FOOD RATIONING CONTINUED, PRICES ON SOME ITEMS HAD BEEN REDUCED AND GOODS APPEARED PLENTIFUL.)

2. ABOUT 100 MEDIUM-SIZE TANKS SERVING AS ANTIAIRCRAFT EMPLACEMENTS WERE STATIONED ALONG THE BANK OF A LARGE

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(classification) (dissem controls)

RIVER NEAR THE STEEL RAILROAD SPAN OUTSIDE HANOI.

EACH TANK PULLED AN ANTIAIRCRAFT GUN MOUNTED ON A WHEELED PLATFORM. IN ADDITION TO ITS OWN CANNON EACH TANK HAD A DOUBLE BARRELLED ANTIAIRCRAFT GUN PROTRUDING FROM THE TURRET OPENING.

3. MOVEMENT OF FREIGHT CARS IN HANOI INCREASED CONSIDERABLY SINCE LAST YEAR. IN ADDITION TO A LOCOMOTIVE IN FRONT EACH FREIGHT TRAIN HAD ANOTHER LOCOMOTIVE. PETROLEUM CARS WERE SEEN FREQUENTLY.

4. FOOD ITEMS WERE APPARENTLY PLENTIFUL AND PRICES ON GOODS AS A WHOLE SEEMED TO HAVE DECREASED. FOR EXAMPLE, THE PRICE OF RICE, WHICH WAS RATIONED, HAD BEEN REDUCED ABOUT TEN PER CENT. SIMILAR PRICE DECREASES WERE NOTED FOR SUCH ITEMS AS SOY SAUCE, MEDICAL GOODS AND BEAN MASH. DOMESTIC VACCINES FOR CHOLERA AND TYPHUS WERE BEING PRODUCED FOR USE IN THE NORTH AS WELL AS IN THE SOUTH.

5. DURING THE PERIOD 18-29 MAY NO BOMB DAMAGE WAS NOTED IN THE AREA OF HANOI GOVERNMENT BUILDINGS OR TO PRESIDENT HO CHI MIN'S QUARTERS. NOR WAS THERE EVIDENCE OF BOMBING AT AN

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UNIDENTIFIED AIRFIELD NORTH OF HANOI WHERE THE FOLLOWING AIRCRAFT WERE SEEN: A TWIN ENGINE MILITARY PLANE, ABOUT 20 KHAKI-COLORED MILITARY HELICOPTERS AND FIVE OR SIX CIVILIAN CRAFT.

6. A FAIRLY LARGE SIZE AUTOMOBILE REPAIR PLANT SITUATED SOUTH OF THE FANCHIMU (PHONETIC) HOTEL APPEARED TO HAVE EVACUATED ITS MAJOR FACILITIES AND WAS CONCENTRATING PRIMARILY ON MINOR REPAIRS. TWO OTHER FACTORY BUILDINGS LOCATED SOUTH OF THE HOTEL HAD BEEN EVACUATED AND WERE VACANT.

7. CHINESE WERE SEEN IN VARIOUS PARTS OF HANOI. FIVE OR SIX HAD QUARTERS IN THE FANCHIMU HOTEL. THEY WOULD DEPART IN THE MORNING, RETURN AT NOON AND LEAVE LATE IN THE AFTER-NOON FOR SOME UNKNOWN DESTINATION. THEIR MISSION IN HANOI WAS NOT KNOWN.

8. VIETNAMESE WORKERS WERE REPORTEDLY VOLUNTARILY RETURNING 20 PER CENT OF THEIR PAY TO THE GOVERNMENT, AND ALLEGEDLY PRODUCTION HAS GREATLY INCREASED IN RECENT MONTHS.

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9. [REDACTED] DISSEM: CINCPAC PACFLT PACAF ARPAC STATE ARMATT
NAVATT AIRATT USFJ NSAPACJ COMNAVJ 5AF 6499SG 500MIG USARJ
DET/4FTD [REDACTED] GP-1

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